

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Applicants appreciate the Office Action considers claims 5-6 to be allowable.

The Office Action rejected presently-pending claims 1-4 and 7-12. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 7, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as been anticipated by Engel et al. (U.S. Patent 5,085,610). In addition, the Office Action rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koike (U.S. Patent 4,701,681). The Office Action also rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koike in view of Dartman (U.S. Patent 6,246,927). The Office Action also rejected claims 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koike in view of Collins (U.S. Patent 4,177,453). Applicants have canceled claim 5 and amended claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 above, wherein the amended claim 1 has combine the features recited in cancelled original claim 5. Applicants have also added claims 13-14. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-4 and 6-14 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Summary of Applicant's Invention

The Applicant's invention is directed to an ultrasonic signaling interactive toy comprising of at least one ultrasonic transceiver inside an interactive toy. The ultrasonic transceiver is capable of transmitting and receiving ultrasonic signals. Each interactive toy includes at least one ultrasonic transceiver for producing a response after receiving an ultrasonic signal. Since

ultrasonic signals can be transmitted or received using the same circuit, power consumption and production costs are low.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

Applicants appreciate the Office Action considers claims 5-6 to be allowable.

The rejected claims 1, 2, 7, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as been anticipated by Engel et al.. In addition, the Office Action rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koike. The Office Action also rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koike in view of Dartman. The Office Action also rejected claims 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koike in view of Collins.

Applicants have cancelled claim 5 and rewritten independent claim 1 to include the features recited in claim 5. Applicants have also amended claims 2, 6, and 7 to improve the clarity.

Amended claim 1 now has included patentable features, the dependent claims 2-4, 6-12 are patentable as well.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action on page 2. First, the element 22 in Engel is a wheel 22 but not a transducer as stated by the Office Action.

With respect to the newly added claims 13-14 (or also similarly recited in claim 9), as recited in claim 13, the present invention also transmits the data information or instruction, whereby the interactive toy has a response, for example, with an action or a display. The data information or the instruction can also include the digital signal and is not just a trigger signal. In

this manner, the interactive effect for the toy with the environment can be achieved. Claim 13 recites the features as follows:

13. An ultrasonic signaling interactive toy, comprising:
an ultrasonic transceiver for transmitting and receiving ultrasonic signals,
wherein ***the ultrasonic signals includes a digital modulation signal***; and
***an interactive toy having at least one internal transceiver capable of
producing a response after receiving an ultrasonic signal.***

(*Emphasis added.*) Independent claim 20 also recites the similar features. The emphasized features are at least not disclosed by the prior art references. Claim 14 further recites that the digital modulation signal can include a data information or an instruction. This at least allows the response of the toy to have more applications. Clearly, the digital modulation signal is different from the whistle used by the prior art reference.

In re Engel et al., the wheel 22 (col. 3, line 38) is referred to a transducer 22 by the Office Action. Applicants respectively disagree. Even though Engel et al. disclose an ultrasonic whistle and ultrasonic microphone (Abstract; col. 4, lines 57-68). *The whistle is rather a trigger signal without carrying information or instruction.* Therefore, Engel et al. failed to disclose the features discussed above. Applicants cannot find any disclosure in Engel et al. about transmitting a data information or an instruction, such as a digital data, via ultrasonic as shown in i.e. FIGs. 3 and FIGs. 4A-4B.

Koike also failed to supply the missing features in Engel et al.

Therefore, claims 13-23 should be also allowable.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 13, and 20 patently define over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 2-4, 6-12, 14-19, and 21-23 patently define over the prior art as well.

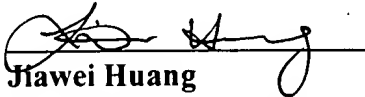
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all pending claims 1-4 and 6-23 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW WHERE CHANGES MADE

In The Claims:

Claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice and disclaimer.

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 have been amended as follows:

1. (Once Amended) An ultrasonic signaling interactive toy, comprising:
an ultrasonic transceiver for transmitting and receiving ultrasonic signals; and
an interactive toy having at least one internal transceiver capable of producing a response after receiving an ultrasonic signal, wherein the response includes an image output.
2. (Once Amended) The interactive toy of claim 1, wherein the response [is]further includes audible sound.
6. (Once Amended) The interactive toy of claim [5]1, wherein the image output is displayed on a display device.
7. (Once Amended) The interactive toy of claim 1, wherein the response [is]further includes the production of some motion.

Claims 13-23 have been newly added.